

## MINUTES

### RIVERTON VILLAGE BOARD

Riverton, IL.

Mayor Todd called to order a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. pursuant to the Bond Issue Notification Act. Those answering roll call: Mayor Todd; Clerk McCullough; Trustees Rader, Faires, Pottier, Bartley and Raycraft. Trustee Black was absent. Treasurer Laffey noted that the notice of the public hearing was published more than 48 hours ago. Treasurer Laffey explained the hearing was to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds in an amount not to exceed 1,360,000 for the purpose of financing the costs of refunding prior bonds of the Village and of designing, acquiring, constructing and installing improvements to the Village's water and sewer system, and explained that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto. Treasurer Laffey asked for presentation of any written or oral public testimony concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds. Ralph Willoughby questioned what the interest rates were on the bonds. Office Mgr. Viola noted the interest rates were unknown because the proposal hasn't been presented to the banks yet. Viola noted the information would be at the next board meeting. Treasurer Laffey asked the public if there were any other questions or comments. There were none. Trustee Rader made a motion and Trustee Faires seconded the motion that the public hearing be adjourned. Upon unanimous roll call vote, Mayor Todd declared the motion to adjourn the hearing carried and the hearing adjourned.

The President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Riverton held their regular board meeting on October 5, 2009 at the Riverton Village Hall, Riverton, IL.

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Those answering roll call: Mayor Todd; Clerk McCullough; Trustees: Rader, Faires, Pottier, Bartley and Raycraft. Trustee Black was absent. Also in attendance were: Supt. Stone, Office Mgr. Viola, Treasurer Laffey and Chief Smith. Guests included: Bruce Martin, Ralph Willoughby, and Mark Yoggerst.

Trustee Bartley made a motion to accept the minutes and pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Raycraft. Trustees Raycraft, Faires, Rader, Pottier and Bartley voted yes.

Bruce Martin came before the board to discuss a block party in front of his house at 5<sup>th</sup> and Bice. He raised questions about the permits required; one requirement should be unanimous approval of every household, another should be the person requesting the permit should be able to provide proof of liability. Mr. Martin stated he was bitterly opposed to the block party. The original agreement with the past Village board for approval of the block party was that it was to have started at 11 a.m. and end at dusk. Mr. Martin stated that last year at 11:50 p.m. he called the Sangamon County Sheriff's office to request they close the party down. Fifteen minutes later a Riverton police officer shut the party down, however, three people were still standing in the street drinking at 1 a.m. Mr. Martin raised liability issues; the block party is on Village property. If people can't drink at parks because of Village property/liability, why are they allowed to drink in the street? Mr. Martin stated the party this year will go from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. or later. Trustee Faires apologized stating when they came before the board to ask to close off the street; it was the first question he raised. They stated they talked with all the residents and had everyone's approval. Mr. Martin stated that was a lie. Martin stated he is opposed to the party and they all know it. He stated they set it up directly in front of his residence and he feels like a prisoner in

his own home for 12 hours. Mr. Martin stated there were others that were not happy about the block party but they wouldn't come to the board meeting because they're afraid, but he is not. He doesn't understand if people don't want this block party to happen, why do they have to be exposed to it? He doesn't understand why they would agree to closing off a busy street for 12 hours. Mr. Martin stated he didn't know what legal remedies he had but he was to the point of searching it out. He feels there should be permits issued and the entire subdivision should be in agreement. He stated there were at least 4 families that were not. He also stated that he had planned to have a garage sale on Saturday and would be unable to do so now. He feels he should not be inconvenienced just because his neighbors want to have a drinking party. Mayor Todd noted that the issue would be deferred to the Public Safety Committee.

Ralph Willoughby came before the board to ask why the police department is not drug tested. Trustee Faires questioned what the officers taking drug tests had to do with them upholding the laws of the Village. Willoughby noted it's in their contract and that all Village employees have to take a drug test, why shouldn't the police? Trustee Faires stated that although it is in their contract, it does not require them to enforce it. Willoughby mentioned that he would much rather face a guy with a shovel on drugs than a police officer with a gun & a taser. Trustee Faires asked if Willoughby had a specific complaint about one of the Village police officers, or if he suspected one of our officers of using drugs. Willoughby answered no, not at this moment. Trustee Bartley noted that the Village employees are required to be drug tested because they are mandated by the ICC and IDOT. Willoughby questioned if there was an officer that killed someone and they were drug tested and failed, who would pay the bill? Trustee Faires stated he trusted all his police officers and did not think drugs were an issue therefore chose not to expend the funds. Willoughby asked how much a drug test cost. Faires stated a minimum of \$500. However, certain officers are prescribed medication which would require a more expensive medical review test. Also, the officers would most likely be paid overtime to take a drug test because they all won't be on shift. The total cost would be over \$1000. Willoughby stated he didn't think it was a waste of money. Next, Willoughby questioned why Silent Rain was not being sent an ordinance violation for the height of plant nuisance ordinance. He complained the weeds were over 6 feet tall. Trustee Pottier said the board would look into it and get back with him about it. Mayor Todd asked if there was a specific lot to which Willoughby replied all of them. Willoughby stated that the gentleman across from the bank was required to mow his lots, but Silent Rain isn't. He questioned why, and if it was because of the developer being a 'friend' of someone on the board. Willoughby stated the rules should be the same for everybody. Mayor Todd stated that he would personally contact Mr. Moats regarding the weeds in Silent Rain subdivision.

Mark Yoggerst came before the board to discuss the property across from the FS station regarding weeds. Chief Smith sent the owner a letter stating they had ten days to remedy the situation. Chief Smith noted that he had a meeting on Tuesday with the owner of the property. Trustee Bartley made a motion to have the Public Works dept. cut the weeds and send the owner a bill if it was not taken care of. The motion was seconded by Trustee Faires. Trustees Rader, Faires, Pottier, Bartley and Raycraft voted yes.

Moving onto old business with the Washington Street Sewer extension; Supt. Stone talked with Petersburg Plumbing & Heating and the drilling crew will be on the job site October 12th. The job was supposed to have started October 1<sup>st</sup> but there was a lot more paperwork to the drilling process than they realized. The project is anticipated to last 45-60 days. Trustee Pottier asked what was going to be done about the streets in the meantime. Supt. Stone stated the roads were going to be a mess for a period of time. This winter it will be hard to plow. The Village will keep it as drivable as they can.

The EPA approved the construction permit on the water plant.

Trustee Bartley stated he received a notice 3-4 weeks ago that the Village had been approved for a \$500,000 grant through the Illinois Department of Transportation. This grant will allow the Village to redo 3<sup>rd</sup> Street from the entrance of Wheeland Park all the way out to Rte 54. The grant is a joint grant between the Village of Riverton and the Village of Spaulding. Supt. Stone asked why the grant didn't go all the way to Old Rte 36. Trustee Bartley stated they may eventually be able to do so because the grant doesn't have to be consecutive, there is a fairly new section that does not need to be replaced, they could cut that 200 ft out and use it for 200 ft somewhere down the road.

Supt. Stone gave the Board a copy of his written report (see attached). Stone stated he had a few things to discuss. He asked the board if they wanted to accept the low bid on Truck 4. Trustee Bartley made motion to accept the bid from Precision Collision. It was seconded by Trustee Rader. Trustees Rader, Faires, Bartley, Pottier and Raycraft voted yes. Alex Lyons of Clearlake Township is prepared to finish the Field of Dreams parking lot very soon, weather permitting. Furnaces at the old firehouse need replaced. A question was raised if the funds were available in the budget. Treasurer Laffey stated there was \$9000 budgeted for building maintenance. The issue will be tabled until the next meeting.

Trustee Bartley made a motion to approve Ordinance 09-026 admitting the cities of Plattsburg and City of Fulton as new members of IMGA. It was seconded by Trustee Pottier. Trustees Pottier, Rader, Raycraft, Faires and Bartley voted yes.

Chief Smith gave the Board a copy of his written report (see attached). Smith stated he received a phone call from a resident who owns property near Wheeland Park. The resident complained of campers trespassing and disposing of their trash on his property. Smith stated the property owner would like the Village to do something about it, such as erect a fence. Smith suggested the resident purchase no trespassing signs, and that if he caught someone on his property to contact the police and they would handle it. Chief Smith stated that Shawn Barber, the part time officer on leave, returned from Afghanistan and does want to continue working for the Village. He will need to be retrained. A public safety meeting was scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup> to interview police applicants. The 5<sup>th</sup> St. block party issue will also be discussed.

Office Mgr. Viola mentioned that LIHEAP was at the Village hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. taking applications for seniors and disabled to help with their winter utilities. The audit is done. She will be receiving a copy this week and will make it available to everyone. Viola stated Locis, the utility billing software, was having a User Group meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> and she would like to attend, it would be at no cost to the Village.

Trustee Pottier stated the Administrative committee has decided to charge \$100 for miscellaneous charges. The committee also agreed to charge a \$75 deposit for use of the Pavilion restrooms to be refunded provided the restrooms were cleaned. Trustee Pottier asked Supt. Stone if there was an update on the fire hydrant issue. Stone stated it would need to be added into next year's budget. Fire Chief Louie Rogers commented on fire hydrants in Spaulding that were partially underground and unusable. Supt. Stone stated they would be dug out. In newer subdivisions it becomes a problem when homeowners bring in truckloads of dirt. When the fire hydrants were put in, they were above ground. The water department will look into it Tuesday.

Trustee Raycraft scheduled a Parks Committee meeting for October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the camping ordinance at Wheeland Park and various Field of Dreams issues.

Trustee Faires asked the board permission to allow himself and the Public Safety Committee to hire the applicant they choose pending a favorable background check. Trustee Faires will phone poll the board with the committee's choice. Trustee Pottier made a motion to allow the Public Safety Committee permission to hire a new applicant after a consensus from the board. It was seconded by Trustee Rader. Trustees Raycraft, Bartley, Pottier, Faires and Rader voted yes.

The Board went into closed session at 8:02 p.m. with a motion from Trustee Bartley and a second from Trustee Faires. This meeting is closed pursuant to Chapter 102, paragraph 42, of the Illinois Revised Statutes of the Open Meeting Act regarding litigation, personnel and collective bargaining.

The board went back into open session at 8:39 p.m. with a motion from Trustee Faires and a second by Trustee Bartley.

Trustee Bartley immediately made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. It was seconded by Trustee Faires. All agreed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk